

HIV

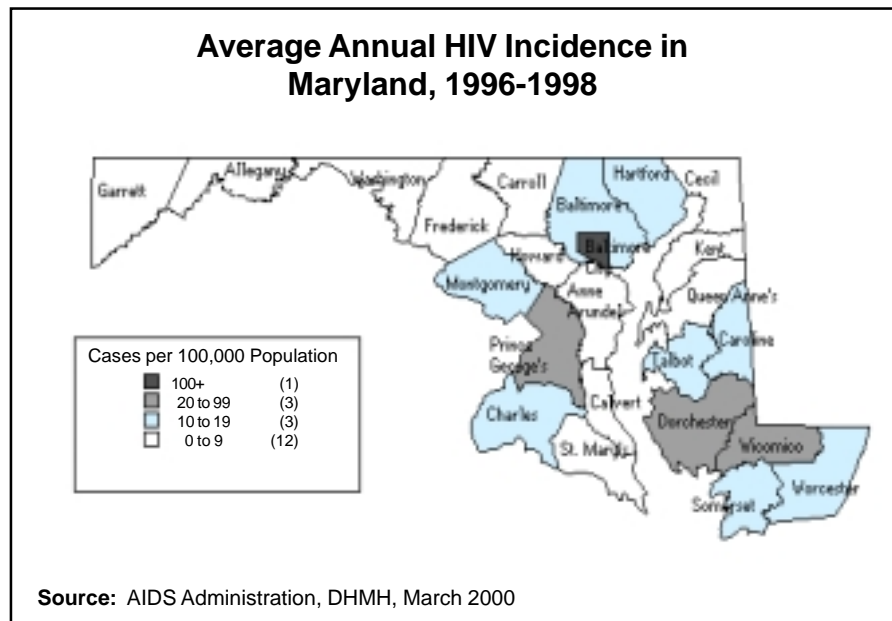
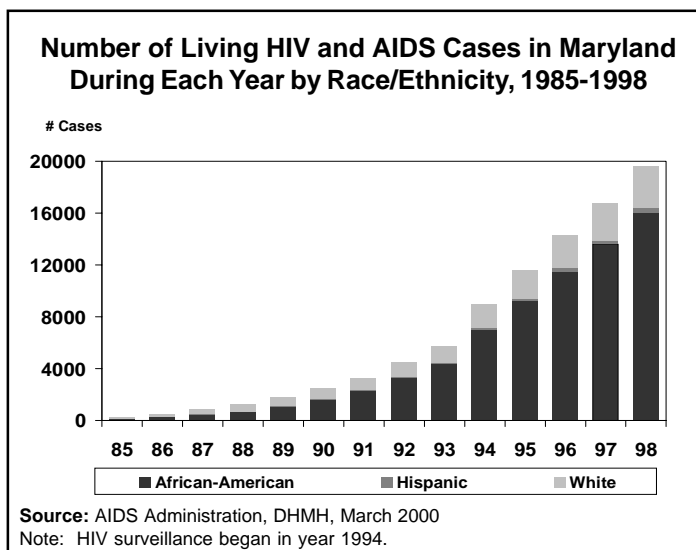
The Issue

Maryland had the fourth highest incidence of AIDS nationally in 1999. HIV/AIDS is a significant cause of illness, disability, and death that disproportionately affects males and African-Americans in Maryland.

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is the pathogenic organism responsible for Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS). HIV cases are first time reports of HIV infection in pre-AIDS individuals with a positive HIV test and Maryland residence at the time of diagnosis.

AIDS emerged in the early 1980s as a new infectious disease. The causative agent of HIV/AIDS was discovered several years later. HIV/AIDS has been reported in almost every racial and ethnic population, every age group, and every socio-economic group in every state in the United States, and in many other countries. In this country, HIV/AIDS is a significant cause of illness, disability, and death, despite declines in HIV-disease and AIDS during 1996 and 1997.

Maryland had the fourth highest AIDS incidence rate in the United States from July 1998 to June 1999. Since reporting began in 1994, a cumulative total of 12,111 non-AIDS HIV infections has



been reported in Maryland as of September 1999. Baltimore City, suburban Baltimore, and suburban Washington account for over 75% of Maryland's cumulative HIV cases. HIV disproportionately affects males and African-Americans in Maryland. The African-American population has the highest rates of HIV among both genders, followed by the Hispanic and white populations.

Topics, by jurisdiction, included in the Health Improvement Plan

Statewide - *Reducing HIV Infection in Maryland, and Extending Life for People with HIV.*

At the local level, while no jurisdictions have chosen HIV for their module, two jurisdictions have chosen related topics:

Caroline County - *Control of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) Among the Adolescent Population of Caroline County*

Kent County - *Reducing Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) in Teens*

Priority focus in other jurisdictions

HIV and/or related topics are included as priority areas for FY2000 in:

Charles County • Harford County • Montgomery County • Washington County

Highlights of HIP strategies recommended to decrease HIV and STDs

(for in-depth details, see the complete text of each state and county module)

- Eliminate the increase in HIV incidence particularly among African-American and other disproportionately affected groups. **(State)**
- Expand the availability of and access to HIV counseling and testing services for disproportionately affected groups. **(State)**
- Increase provider skills to deliver quality HIV risk reduction interventions. **(State)**
- Decrease the rate of new AIDS cases. **(State)**
- Provide training to all teachers and guidance counselors who deal with this topic. **(Caroline County)**
- Host a community forum to educate parents and the general public about the problem. **(Kent County)**

Statewide Partners

AIDS Administration, DHMH • Epidemiology and Disease Control Program, DHMH • HIV Prevention Community Planning Group • Johns Hopkins Medical Institution/University • Maryland Association of County Health Officers • Maryland HIV Care Consortia • Maryland Local Health Departments • Maryland Medical Assistance Program, DHMH • Maryland Mental Hygiene Administration, DHMH • Maryland State Department of Education • Med Chi—the Maryland State Medical Society • Morgan State University • University of Maryland, Baltimore County • University of Maryland Medical Systems